Department. It is therefore prayed that rules beneficial to all parties may be framed.

(2) The bagani tree cannot be indiscriminately tapped like the date tree, as it can be tapped only at a particular season. If the season is not taken advantage of, the drawer has to wait a long time before he can have another opportunity for tapping the tree. At present, owing to the delay in marking the tree, it becomes impossible to tap the tree in time. Hence it is prayed that the tree tax on bagani trees may be abolished and the average income from tree tax on the trees for five years may be recovered along with the shop tax, and villages sold separately. This course will, while safeguarding the revenue of Government, afford great encouragement to professional toddy-drawers and also obviate all hardships to occupants of land.

Reply of Government.—This will be considered.

LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL BOARDS

(*Nos. 126 to 148.*)

SUBJECT No. 126.

Taluk head-quarters to be always Municipalities.

Mr. S. Dasappa, Bangalore District Board.

Summary of discussion.—The retention of taluk head-quarters as Municipalities even though these contain a population of less than 5,000, will help considerably to keep up the activity of these places and their importance.

Reply of Government.—Noted.

SUBJECT No. 127.

Improvement of Municipal Towns.

Mr. M. Venkatakrishnaiya, Mysore City Municipality.

Summary of discussion.—It is requested that Municipal towns may be improved by opening out congested parts by forming extensions, etc.

Reply of Government.—Necessary action is being taken in the matter and all that is possible will be done.

SUBJECT No. 128.

Village accounts for Municipal Funds.

Mr. Srinivas Sitaram Kulkarni, Harihar Sub-Taluk.

Summary of discussion.—The subject of doing away with the unnecessary accounts relating to lands in Municipal towns and allowing stationery allowances to shanbhogs, was brought forward last year, when the Government replied that the question was noted and would be enquired into ; the matter is again submitted for orders.

Reply of Government.—The matter is under consideration.

SUBJECT No. 129.

Special rules for the election of Mussalman Representatives for Municipal Councils.

Mr. B. Rassulkhan Sahib, Anjuman-i-Islamia, Chikmagalur.

Summary of discussion.—It is prayed that the system of election now in vogue may not be made general. It is requested that an exception be made in all Municipal towns in the case of the Mussalman community, who should be allowed to elect amongst themselves as many of the council members as the President or the Vice-President decides, with due regard to the local Muslim population.

Reply of Government.—The question of nominating a member to represent the Mahomedan community on Municipal Councils, wherever necessary, is noted.

SUBJECT No. 130.

Mohatarfa collected in small villages to be utilised for the improvement of the respective villages.

Mr. Lakshminarasimhachar, Chamrajnagar Taluk.

Summary of discussion.—It is prayed that the mohatarfa collected in small villages be set apart for the improvement of the respective villages.

Reply of Government.—Improvement of villages is a matter devolving on District Boards and the cost should be met from District Funds.

SUBJECT No. 131.

Election of members from Union Panchayets to Taluk Boards.

Mr. Lakshminaranappa, Heggaddevankote Taluk.

Summary of discussion.—Union Panchayets may be allowed to elect a member to the Taluk Board just as a Taluk Board elects a member to the District Board.

Reply of Government.—The question may lie over till more experience is gained of the working of the Local Boards Regulation.

SUBJECT No. 132.

Reduction of fines on impounded cattle in the malnad.

Mr. Venkataramaiya, Manjarabad Taluk.

Summary of discussion.—The sale of impounded cattle does not often fetch the cost of feeding and fine charges. The present heavy rate of fine in the malnad may be reduced to rates prevailing in other parts of the State.

(2) The rate of fine in the pound at Saklespur is the same as that prevailing in pounds in coffee estates. As this is a Municipality, the rates prevailing in other Municipalities may be ordered to be levied.

Reply of Government.—The question will be referred to the Deputy Commissioner.

SUBJECT No. 133.

Free use of water for household purposes from taps in houses in Bangalore and Mysore.

Messrs. M. K. Krishnaurti Rao, Magadi Taluk; B. Gangaiya, B. Appajaiya, B. Basanna and B. Veerabhadra Chetty, Bangalore City Municipality.

Summary of discussion.—The present system of restricting the quantity of water to be used in private houses by gauging it is an infliction of unnecessary hardship on the people. The amount levied on the excess quantity is just sufficient for maintaining the establishment requisite for finding out this excess. Besides, restricting the quantity to be used from house taps does not prevent the people from taking water from public taps. Provided there is no fear of water being used for gardening and such other purposes, free use of it may be allowed and people saved from unnecessary burden and worry.

Metre readings used to be taken once in a month and bills sent quarterly for the excess quantity of water used. But now bills are sent monthly. People desire that the average quantity of water used may be calculated at the end of each quarter and bills made out accordingly for the excess.

Reply of Goernmvent.—With the existing machinery it is not possible to pump up more water than at present. The supply is therefore limited and should be used economically. House connections are taken only by those